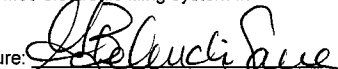


I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4).

Dated: October 13, 2009

Signature:

  
(Giordana M. Belenchia-Sauer)

Docket No.: 22956-302 (MIT169CON)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Mark A. Johanson et al.

Application No.: 10/709,997

Filed: June 11, 2004

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
HARVESTING AND IMPLANTING BONE  
PLUGS

Confirmation No.: 3996

Art Unit: 3773

Examiner: J. W. Woo

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE PURSUANT TO § 1.116**

Dear Sir:

Applicants submit this paper in response to the final Office Action dated August 11, 2009.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 2 of this paper.